Appl. No. 10/707,786 Amdt. dated March 23, 2005 Reply to Office action of December 27, 2004

REMARKS

Claim objections and rejection of claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C.
second paragraph:

5

The Examiner's suggestions for claims 1 and 9 regarding "to provide a common output" and "body of each main pass transistor of the first and second pumping units" have been adopted.

- The method of claim 1 relates to operating a dual pumping circuit that has one or more stages (first, second, third, etc). So, in claim 1, the phrase "the method for the first stage of the dual pumping circuit comprising:" was meant to introduce the steps performed for the first stage. For clarification, this has been amended to "the method comprising, for a first stage:" meaning that the recited steps are limited to being performed on the first stage (or only stage).
- Claims 2 and 3 are meant to further limit how subsequent stages (second, third, etc) are controlled. Thus, the amendments of the transitional phrases to recite:
 - "2. The method in claim 1 further comprising, for each even stage of the dual pumping circuit:"

25

"3. The method in claim 2 further comprising, for each odd stage of the dual pumping circuit except the first stage:"

Appl. No. 10/707,786 Amdt. dated March 23, 2005 Reply to Office action of December 27, 2004

The applicant asserts that claim 3 now further limits claim 2 by reciting additional steps for odd stages other than the first stage, and that claim 2 now further limits claim 1 in a similar way.

5

The applicant also asserts that these amendments introduce no new matter and should not affect the conditional allowability of claims 1-16.

10 Claim 5 is amended to recite "comprises".

Claim 10 is amended to recite "comprising".

In addition, claims 2 and 3 are amended to revise instances of "being kept off" to "off" so as to make grammatical sense with the recited "rendering" action. No new matter is entered.

Withdrawal of these objections and rejections and allowance of claims 1-16 is respectfully requested.

20

Appl. No. 10/707,786 Amdt. dated March 23, 2005 Reply to Office action of December 27, 2004

Sincerely yours,

Wenton Hars

Date: March 23, 2005

Winston Hsu, Patent Agent No. 41,526

5 P.O. BOX 506, Merrifield, VA 22116, U.S.A.

Voice Mail: 302-729-1562 Facsimile: 806-498-6673

e-mail: winstonhsu@naipo.com

10 (Note: Please leave a message in my voice mail if you need to talk to me. The time in D.C. is 13 hours behind the Taiwan time, i.e. 9 AM in D.C. = 10 PM in Taiwan).